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November 9, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U. S. House of Representatives
H-232, U. S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to you today on behalf of the Nisei Farmers League to support Congressman Jim Costa as the next Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture. Our organization represents over 500 farmers, farm labor contractors, packing houses, food processors, and farm workers. We specialize in issues regarding labor compliance, air quality and immigration. We appreciate the work you have done this year to secure funding for protective equipment for our farming community, businesses, health care workers and first line responders. We know that Congressman Costa supported this effort.

I have worked with Congressman Costa for over 30 years. First when he represented the State of California as a State Assemblyman (1978 to 1994) and then as a State Senator (1994-2002). He held many important chairmanships, as well as serving as the Majority Caucus Chairman while in the State Assembly.

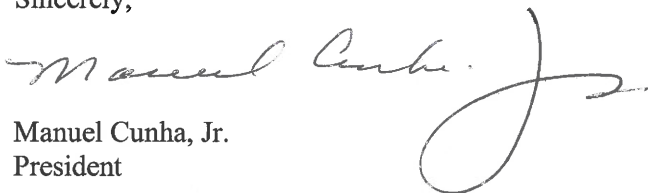
I have seen him work tirelessly as a member of the House of Representatives. He has experience as a 16-year veteran of the House Agriculture Committee and has served on many subcommittees overseeing livestock, foreign agriculture, farm credit, rural development, agricultural research and biotechnology.

He is a well-rounded member of the House Agriculture Committee, being a third-generation family farmer in California. He has knowledge and a good understanding of the issues surrounding water, labor, trade, immigration, air quality and agricultural economics.

The Districts he has served in Congress have been Latino-majority districts with high unemployment and low incomes. Nearly one-quarter of his constituents depend on food assistance programs. Therefore, we appreciate his support of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help families that need it the most.

I cannot think of a better fit for the Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture than Jim Costa. He has our full support.

Sincerely,



Manuel Cunha, Jr.
President